evaluated bidder, *viz.* the Consortium of M/s. Alstom Power Hydraulique, France and M/s. Alstom Projects India Ltd., New Delhi.

(c) M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) had not submitted the bid for the package exclusively on their own but had participated in the bidding for the package in joint venture with M/s. Marubeni Corporation, Japan.

(d) and (e) The tendering for the electro-mechanical package of Subansiri Lower Hydro-electric Project has been processed through the International Competitive Bidding route. NHPC has informed that after techno-economic evaluation of the price bids, in accordance with the evaluation criteria specified in the Bidding Document, the Consortium of M/s. Alstom Power Hydraulique, France and M/s. Alstom Projects India Ltd. was found to be the lowest evaluated bidder by NHPC and the letter of award was issued to them. According to NHPC, BHEL-Marubeni Joint Venture was not the lowest evaluated bidder.

(f) Representations from BHEL/BHEL-Marubeni Consortium and some letters from other sources were received in the Ministry of Power relating to the matter of award of electro-mechanical package of Subansiri Lower Hydro-electric Project (2000 MW) in Arunachal Pradesh. These were forwarded to NHPC. The Board of NHPC resolved that Ministry of Power be requested to get the matter enquired by an independent expert body. On receipt of the request from NHPC, Ministry of Power has appointed an independent Expert Committee under Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) to enquire into the matter. The report of the Committee is awaited.

Streamlining of procedure for customers

2424. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has streamlined the procedure for customer seeking open access in inter-State transmission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that CERC had introduced part-day charges to reduce the cost of wheeling of peaking power; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission issued on 30th January, 2004 the Regulations on Open Access in inter-State transmission in pursuance of the Electricity Act, 2003. Subsequently, based on the feedback of stakeholders and after hearing, the Commission has brought certain amendments to these regulations which will be effective from 1st April, 2005.

According to these Regulations, the transmission charges for short term customers shall be declared in terms of Rupees/MW/Day. However, for part day users up to 6 hours in a day in one continuous block, only one fourth (1/4th) of the per day charges shall be applied. Similarly for part day users up to 12 hours in a day in one continuous block, only half the per day charges shall be applied.

Pendency of power projects

†2425. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards media reports about pendency of power projects for twenty years;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon;

(c) what are the reasons for non-completion of the such projects even after a lapse of such a long time;

(d) what has been the additional burden of funds on the Centre on account of pendency of these projects;

(e) whether Government propose to hand over these projects or some of them to private sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to constraints, such as natural calamities, geological surprises, delays in land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation problems, legal disputes, delays in clearances, non-availability of funds, etc. considerable time and cost overruns have occurred in a few hydro-power projects.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.